

Highlights of Progress Report as of March 19, 2015 for 2014 – 2015 793 Plan

Progress since last WNYRIC Advisory Council Meeting is in red ink and italics

Objective 1: Provide a secure, robust, cost effective infrastructure at WNYRIC, in the cloud, as well as in the district as appropriate

1.2 Continue to implement Disaster Recovery initiatives for our Tier 1 applications and continue to Tier 2 based on time of recovery	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Infrastructure Teams</i>	<i>Initial planning meetings with SUNY ITEC are taking place for July 2015 implementation.</i>
1.3 Implementation of cost optimization methods for wide area network and local area network security	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>TS WAN</i> <i>Infrastructure and Operation Teams</i>	<i>Training on new bandwidth monitoring tools with WNYRIC staff and Standards Sub-Committee members are taking place.</i> <i>The WNYRIC Network Security team and the NY State Cyber Security Operations Center have begun systematically analyzing network traffic for malicious traffic (Botnets and Malware).</i> <i>The WNYRIC will begin to provide centralized critical security patches and notifications of critical security alerts for school district's servers and device for an additional fee through Base LAN.</i>
1.5 Ongoing communication regarding bandwidth use and status	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Core Network</i>	<i>Standards Sub-Committee working on effective report structures to be shared with district personnel.</i>

Objective 3: Support anywhere/anytime secure access from any device to meet district's needs.

3.3 Investigate and test emerging operating systems for legacy and mobile devices	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>R&D Team, Lifecycle</i>	<i>Microsoft Windows 10 is being researched and evaluated.</i>
3.4 Investigate/research/assist districts with readiness for online assessment use through planning for technology and providing technical expertise and best practices as needed	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>R&D Team</i>	<i>Successful February Diagnostic Field Test with single district. 75% of students were effectively able to complete the test.</i>

Objective 4: Investigate and implement cost savings and optimization strategies to achieve sustainability in service offerings

4.1 Manage grants that support or enhance the entire	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Internal Support and Electronic Document</i>	<i>2 districts participating in the Archives grant project are fully implemented, 6 others are in process.</i>
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WNYRIC region in relation to increased efficiencies and cost containment		<i>Management Teams</i>	
4.2 Optimize Service Desk	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>WNYRIC Service Desk</i>	<i>Implementation of Service Now for EIB Campus and Centers was completed effective February 23, 2015.</i>
4.3 Utilize centralized End Point Device Management Solutions to reduce “sneakernet” and optimize instruction	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Lifecycle Team</i>	<i>There are 24 districts who are participating in the Lifecycle service</i> <i>Creating and testing a standardized “Golden Image” for endpoint deployment to improve uniform software distribution and overall efficiency for Managed IT district devices.</i>
4.5 Investigate private and public cloud solutions	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Cloud Team</i>	<i>On site informational meetings regarding O365 and Google integration. Discussion includes device options and CBT considerations.</i> <i>WNYRIC application and support staff will be attending online O365 training sessions beginning April 2015.</i>

Objective 5: Develop and provide data systems, processes and services in support of accountability and or instructional improvement

5.1 Support the process for and data needed for interim and online assessments	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Student Services Team</i>	<i>Data services for interim and online assessments are provided. Data from eSchoolData and PowerSchool is being provided to eDoctrina, AIMSweb, STAR, NWEA, iReady and Castle Learning. Additional products are being investigated. Right Reason and Renaissance Learning are now added.</i>
5.2 Research and support new data collection requirements	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Data Warehouse Team Finance Team</i>	<i>Data Warehouse team created a report that can assist in collecting/bringing together data for US Civil Rights Reporting requirements.</i>
5.5 Support programs that allow teacher level access to appropriate data	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Student and Data Warehouse Team</i>	<i>Pilot testing eSchoolData GURU Boards to provide data in a graphical format to teachers and administrators from the WNYRIC Data Warehouse and other assessment data directly within the eSchoolData application. Also included is a graduation rate predictor by diploma type and by student. Beginning rollout of eSchoolData GURU Boards as of April.</i>

Objective 6: Support the initiative for Computer Based Testing (CBT)

6.1 Communicate current NYS requirements regarding CBT	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>All Service Teams</i>	<i>See Goal 4.5</i> <i>One district participated in the PARCC Diagnostic Test in February. WNYRIC staff assisted Cuba Rushford with technical set up/student data uploads, infrastructure trials as well as support on testing day. No other districts are scheduled or notified of acceptance for the next 2014-15 field testing at this time. Lessons learned will be shared out as an Advisory Council agenda item as well as communicated to all districts through meetings and publications.</i>
6.2 Provide security within endpoint management	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>All Service Teams</i>	<i>Districts and application teams are working to eliminate and/or isolate all remaining Windows XP computer operating system and Windows 2003 server operating</i>

			<i>systems.</i>
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Objective 7: Continue to enhance existing services with updated functionality and new product offerings

7.1 Implement and support solutions to meet the needs of school business and Human Resources and Administrative operations	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Finance Services</i>	<p><i>Have completed 2 conversions to nVision and are implementing additional modules in the alio software conversion.</i></p> <p><i>The financial team is now being trained in K-12 Enterprises Financial Software and will begin with 1 district conversions upon completion of the training.</i></p> <p><i>The Financial team has successfully assisted the districts in generating and processing their 2014 W-2's and 1099's. Teams are now preparing for the Spring User Group meetings.</i></p> <p><i>Due to growing interest, the Applicant Tracking Team have held several demos across the area to demonstrate both applications for Certified and for the Support Staff.</i></p>
7.2 Implement and support solutions for the effective management of information about students	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<i>Student Management Services</i>	<p>Solutions for student related data needs are implemented and supported. Recent RFP to update Automated Notification services being offered. We will continue to support Global Connect until its end of life June 30, 2015. We are also continuing to offer OneCallNow, PowerAnnouncement and SchoolMessenger. We are adding support for Blackboard Connect. Demos to be scheduled.</p> <p><i>3 Districts converting from Global Connect to Blackboard Connect, in process. An additional 48 districts need to select and migrate to a new product by June 30. Periodic reminders are being sent to districts along with information regarding demonstrations. There are fewer than 20 districts left to choose a new product, additional communication and project planning is underway.</i></p>
7.3 Implement and support solutions for an expanded Web presence	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	E-mail and Web Services	<p><i>WTW is adding 6 new districts to the SchoolWires website service this year. Approximately 40 on-site website editor training sessions were conducted as districts are looking to improve their web presence. Many new modules were implemented as well including video, mobile, alerts and forms.</i></p>
7.4 Provide enhanced services in response to emerging customer needs	July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2017	<p><i>Student team</i></p> <p><i>Data Warehouse</i></p>	<p><i>After looking further into issues associated with supporting transportation systems, it has been determined that it is not feasible to offer this as a service, and therefore no RFP will be done for transportation software. Development for a RFP for ID card solutions is under review for a Spring release.</i></p> <p><i>The Financial Team has successfully implemented 4 districts in the Hillyard</i></p>

		<p><i>Team</i></p> <p><i>software. The Financial team have conducted numerous demos for the Hillyard service and have received positive results.</i></p> <p>Student team providing a new service, webEdge Student Portfolio. This product will display NYS Parent Reports and other 3rd party assessment reports to parents via the eSchoolData and PowerSchool Parent Portals <i>Student team is in the process of implementing two districts this spring and many other districts are requesting quotes. Several have expressed interest in posting elementary report cards in this manner as well.</i></p> <p><i>Replaced Data Warehouse reporting platform (PowerPlay) with a more up-to-date version (Workspace Advanced) to enhance school district's ability to investigate student data. Demonstrations are being conducted at the March user group meetings.</i></p>
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